

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 PC-01 EB-07 IO-10

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O R 031733Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 515

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, HO

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

1. GOH ISSUED DECLARATION ON JULY 2. MAIN POINTS FOLLOW:

- A) THE GOVERNMENT ASSURES THE PEOPLE THAT IT IS IN FULL CONTROL OF COUNTRY;
- B) PUBLIC DISTURBANCES IN OLANCHO CAUSED BY CONFLICT BETWEEN CAMPESINOS AND LANDOWNERS LED TO GOVERNMENT DECISION TO REINFORCE MILITARY FORCES IN AREA;
- C) THE DISTURBANCES IN OLANCHO RESULTED FROM THE ACTION OF UNC (NATIONAL UNION OF CAMPESINOS) IN TRYING TO FORCE THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE MEASURES CONTRARY TO THE LAW;
- D) UNC AND THE ASSOCIATION OF CATTLEMEN AND LANDOWNERS IN OLANCHO HAVE DEVELOPED PARA-MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS TO OPPOSE GOVERNMENT POLICIES;
- E) THE MILITARY FORCES STATIONED IN OLANCHO HAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER WITH ALL THE POWER AT THEIR

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COMMAND;

F) THE GOVERNMENT HAS AUTHORIZED CHURCH AUTHORITIES TO MAKE FULL INVESTIGATION OF THE ACTIONS OF PRIESTS AND THE CHURCH PERSONNEL IN CRECENT DISTURBANCES;
G) THE SUPREME COURT HAS BEEN ASKED TO INVESTIGATE AND BRING TO TRIAL THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRAGIC EVENTS IN JUTICALPA; AND
H) THE GOVERNMENT CALLS ON THE HONDURAN PEOPLE TO UNITE IN DEFENSE OF THE NATION, AND EXPRESSES ITS CONFIDENCE THAT THE PRESENT SITUATION WILL BE RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW.

2. VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN ISSUING DECLARATIONS IN REGARD TO THE SITUATION. THE COMMUNIST DOMINATED FEUH, FEDERATION OF UNIGYRSITY STUDENTS, ISSUED A DECLARATION CONDEMNING CHIEF OF STATE MELGAR AND LANDOWNERS FOR JUTICALPA KILLINGS AND CALLED FOR THE FORMATION OF A FRENTE UNICO (UNITED FRONT) OF "POPULAR" ORGANIZATIONS TO CONFRONT THE "ULTRA-RIGHTIST" OFFECOIVE. THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNIVERSITY (DCU) ORGANIZATION ISSUED A STATEMENT ACCUSING LANDOWNERS AND MILITARY CHIEFS OF BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR THE JUTICALPA INCIDENT AND DEMANDED THE LIBERATION OF IMPRISONED CAMPESINOS. FASH (CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LABOR FEDERATION) AND FECESITLIH (TEGUCIGALPA-BASED FEDERATION OF CTH) ISSUED A JOINT DECLARATION CONDEMNING THE MILITARY FOR THE KILLINGS IN JUTICALPA, BUT ALSO BLAMED UNC FOR INITIATING THE MARCH THAT LED TO THE INCIDENT. ANACH (LARGEST CAMPESINO ORGANIZATION) FOLLOWED SIMILAR LINE IN ITS STATEMENT.

3. COMMENT: THE SITUATION IN OLANCHO IS CLEARLY TENSE. VARIOUS REPORTS INDICATE THAT KILLINGS OF LAST WEEK HAVE INCREASED LATENT TENSION IN AREA BETWEEN CAMPESINOS AND LANDOWNERS. IN KEEPING WITH ITS DECLARATION, THE GOVERNMENT HAS DISPATCHED ADDITIONAL TROOPS TO OLANCHO IN AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID FURTHER DISTURBANCES.
SOWASH

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